

Subject: Feedback on Westpoint Marina plants

Date: Thursday, September 22, 2011 5:25 PM

From: Ellen Miramontes <ellenm@bcdcc.ca.gov>

To: Michael Smiley <smiley@bmsdesigngroup.com>, Valerie Conant <Conant@bmsdesigngroup.com>, Mark Sanders <mark@westpointharbor.com>, Maureen O'Connor <moc@paspeech.com>

Cc: Tom Sinclair <toms@bcdcc.ca.gov>, Brad McCrea <bradm@bcdcc.ca.gov>, Bob Batha <bobb@bcdcc.ca.gov>, Adrienne Klein <adriennek@bcdcc.ca.gov>

Mark, Maureen, Michael and Valerie,

I have reviewed the drawings from Egli Landscaping and have the following comments:

Plants for Removal

- Miscanthus sinensis
- Seashore Paspalum

I have looked into both of these grasses and found that they are invasive. With the project's location along the edge of the Bay and directly across from the wildlife refuge, it is important that new invasive species which could spread throughout the Bay are not introduced inadvertently. I have consulted with the refuge manager, Eric Mruz, and also Peter Baye, an expert botanist in the region, regarding these grasses.

Plants to Remain, but not plant more of

- Agapanthus
- Gardenia
- Heuchera
- Salix babylonica
- Washingtonia robusta
- Phoenix reclinata
- Washingtonia filifera
- Dracena
- Phoenix canariensis
- Tristania

These plants which have already been planted don't need to be removed although more should not be planted and some should be relocated. Many of the Tristania conferta and Salix babylonica should be relocated in order to maintain the view corridors required by the permit and also to maintain open views of the water from the shoreline pathway as we have discussed.

The line of Poplars and Monterey Cypress that have been planted along the shoreline edge at the channel were not envisioned in the DRB drawing submittals and present a problem for wildlife living in the refuge. These trees will serve as a perch for raptors that can then prey

upon listed species such as clapper rail, western snowy plover and salt marsh harvest mouse living on Greco Island. The biologist for the refuge, Cheryl Strong, explained these issues to me. The landscape should closely follow the DRB submittals and, as such, these trees should be either removed or potentially moved to another location on the site where they will not present this problem such as within the future building footprints for later removal.

While it is acceptable to mimic some of the plant materials used at Pacific Shores, the use of these should be minimized and the plant palette should be weighted towards the plants shown on the earlier BMS Design Group plans. For example the native *Limonium californicum* should be used instead of *Limonium perezii*.

Please call me with any questions regarding these comments.

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Ellen Miramontes
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Regards,

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Valerie Conant <Conant@bmsdesigngroup.com>
To: Ellen Miramontes <ellenmiramontes@yahoo.com>
Cc: Michael Smiley <Smiley@bmsdesigngroup.com>;
mark@westpointharbor.com
Sent: Tuesday, September 20, 2011 11:49 AM
Subject:

Hi Ellen-

I've attached "as-built" drawings we've received from Eggli Landscaping.

We would like to create a plant palette acceptable to both you and Mark. Will you

please evaluate the plants listed in these drawings and sign off on those to add to our final plant palette? We will also be including many of the plants from the *Phase I Planting & Furnishing Plan* dated August 7, 2006.

Thanks-
Valerie

Valerie Conant | Senior Landscape Architect

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